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MM/Norman  
09-22 28

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GRUBER *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/076,115

Filed: May 12, 1998

For: **Methods for Production and  
Purification of Nucleic Acid  
Molecules**

Art Unit: ~~1643~~ 25 1653

Examiner: (To be Assigned)

Atty. Docket: 0942.4350001/RWE/BJD

**Preliminary Amendment**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In advance of prosecution in the above identified matter, please amend the application as follows:

***In the Claims:***

Please cancel claims 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 34, 37, 38, 39, 46, 47, 48, 50 and 52, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

***Remarks***

No new matter has been added by these amendments. Applicants have canceled the above-noted claims solely to reduce the number of excess claims.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that are otherwise provided for in the accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are